

# English Rakugo

## Kaishi Katsura

**English Rakugo  
US Tour 2008  
Comes to  
Des Moines!**

**Date:** July 1, 2008  
**Time:** 7:30 p.m.  
(Door opens at 7:00 p.m.)  
**Place:** Indian Hills Junior High School  
Auditorium  
9401 Indian Hills Drive,  
Clive, IA 50325

**Free Admission (General Seating)**

**\*Reservation Required\***

To make a reservation go to our web-site at  
[www.japaniowa.org](http://www.japaniowa.org)  
or call Mayumi Ameku at 515 462-4500.

### WHAT IS KAISHI KATSURA?

Kaishi Katsura has been performing Rakugo since 1994. He started performing in English in 1997. He has made over 200 performances all over the world including the USA, Canada, Singapore, Australia, Brunei, India and England. He has also received seven different awards. In 2008, he was selected as a cultural ambassador to help introduce Japanese culture and tradition to the people in the USA. He performs not only a classic Rakugo, but also his own original Rakugo that reflects Today's society.



### WHAT IS RAKUGO?

**Rakugo** can best be described as a Japanese sit-down performance of comic story telling, with a history dating back 400 years. The performer sits on a small cushion in front of the audience and acts out stories consisting of conversations among several characters. The performer is dressed in traditional formal Japanese clothes (Kimono) and usually equipped with a paper fan (Sensu) and a hand towel (Tenugui). There are about 300 popular classic Rakugo today. After a few hundred years, people still find new laughter in the same stories.

<http://eigo-rakugo.com/english/index.html>

Thank you to our sponsors to make this event happen!

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OF JAPAN  
AT CHICAGO

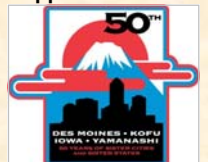


photo by Haruki Shimokoshi